

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A method, comprising:

generating an initial electronic document;

a printer inserting one or more printable formatting commands into the initial
electronic document;

converting the initial electronic document into a physical document including the
formatting commands;

scanning the physical document using a scanner to produce a second electronic
document, wherein the scanner is configured to interpret the formatting
commands and to transform the physical document into the second
electronic document in accordance with the formatting commands.

22. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands include a
font.

23. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands include a
font size.

24. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands include at
least one of: an alignment tag, and a tab.

25. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands include a
margin.

26. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands include at
least one of: a table definition and a picture definition.

27. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the formatting commands are inserted into the initial electronic document in accordance with a document format standard.

28. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein in converting the initial electronic document into the physical document, a representation of the formatting commands is printed on a side of the physical document.

29. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the step of converting further comprises:

placing one or more bar codes into the physical document, wherein the bar codes are viewable representations of the formatting commands.

30. (New) A computer readable medium comprising program instructions, wherein the instructions are executable to:

generate an initial electronic document;
insert one or more printable formatting commands into the initial electronic document at a printer;
convert said initial electronic document into a physical document including the formatting commands;
interpret the formatting commands at a scanner; and
transform the physical document into a second electronic document in accordance with the formatting commands.

31. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands include a font.

32. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands include a font size.

33. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands include at least one of: an alignment tag and a tab.

34. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands include a margin.

35. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands include at least one of: a table definition and a picture definition.

36. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the formatting commands are inserted into the initial electronic document in accordance with a document format standard.

37. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the instructions are further executable to print a representation of the formatting commands on a side of the physical document during a conversion of the initial electronic document into the physical document.

38. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the instructions are further executable to place one or more bar codes into the physical document during a conversion of the initial electronic document into the physical document, wherein the bar codes are viewable representations of the formatting commands.